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# What is Beauty But a Breath? (1984)

Frank Felice

*Butler University*, [ffelice@butler.edu](mailto:ffelice@butler.edu)

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# What is Beauty but a Breath?

SATB

Text: Anonymous, 14th cen

Frank Felice

1 Freely *p* *mp*

Soprano

What is beau - ty? at birth

Alto

What is beau-ty but a breath? But a breath, it's fan - cies twin

Tenor

is beau - ty But a breath, it's fan - cies twin at

Bass

What is beau - ty?

5 *mp* *ten.* *mp*

Sop.

and death. that fa - deth

Alto

and death. a da - mask rose

Ten.

birth and death. that fa - deth

Bass

at birth and death. The co - lour of a da-mask rose

9 *f* *p*

Sop.

when the north wind blows. It fa - deth,

Alto

north wind blows. fa - deth,

Ten.

when the north wind blows. fa - deth

Bass

wind blows. fa - deth,

13 *p* *pp* A Bit Faster

Sop. *p* fa - deth when the north wind blows. *pp*

Alto *p* fa - deth when the north wind blows. *pp*

Ten. *p* fa - deth when the north wind blows. *pp* *mf* T'is such that though all sorts do

Bass *p* fa - deth when the north wind blows. *pp* *mf* T'is such that though all sorts do

16 *mf* *f*

Sop. they know not, what it is to have it; *f* a thing

Alto *mf* they know not, what it is to have it; *f* a thing

Ten. *mf* crave it *f* a thing a

Bass *mf* crave it *f* a thing

20

Sop. a thing that some <sup>3</sup> times stoops not to a king and

Alto *f* not to a king

Ten. *f* thing that some <sup>3</sup> times stoops not to a king a king

Bass *f* a thing that some <sup>3</sup> times stoops not to a king

23

Sop. yet is most o - pen

Alto most o - pen

Ten. most o - pen to the com-mon-est thing. For she that is most

Bass most o - pen to the com-mon-est thing.

*p*

*, p*

*pp*

27

Sop. for she is fair is o - pen to the air.

Alto is most fair is o - pen to the air.

Ten. fair is o - pen to the air.

Bass for she is fair is o - pen to the air.

*p*

*p*

*poco cresc., tutti*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

31

Tempo I

Sop. What is beau - ty?

Alto What is beau - ty but a breath?

Ten. is beau - ty?

Bass What is beau - ty?

*p*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

34 *mp* *mp*

Sop. at birth and death.

Alto fan - cies twin *mp* and death. *pp* a

Ten. fan - cies twin *mf* at birth and death.

Bass at birth and death. *p* The co-lour of a da-mask

38 *mp* *f* *p*

Sop. that fa - deth when the north wind blows. It fa - deth,

Alto *p* da - mask rose *mf* north wind blows. *f* fa - deth,

Ten. *mp* that fa - deth when the north wind blows. *f* fa - deth,

Bass rose *mf* wind blows. *p* fa - deth,

42 *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

Sop. fa - deth when the north wind blows.

Alto fa - deth when the north wind blows.

Ten. *p* fa - deth, fa - deth when the north wind blows.

Bass fa - deth when the north wind blows.